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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re:	Peter J. Nicklas	Confirmation No:	9534
Serial No:	10/714,090	Group:	1725
Filed:	November 14, 2003	Examiner:	Elve, Maria Alexandra
For:	Hybrid tubular wire electrode for submerged arc welding		
Customer No.:	29127		
Attorney Docket No.	22176.25 (ITW-14378)		

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY**

Mail Stop Amendment  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the pending Office Action, mailed September 6, 2006 (Paper No. 20060830), please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

-amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims in section a);

Finally, reconsideration is requested in view of the remarks set forth in section b).

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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

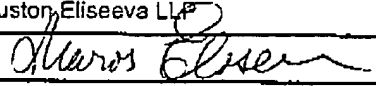
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0551-0031

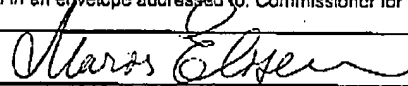
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>	Application Number	10/714,090
	Filing Date	November 14, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Peter J. Nicklas
	Art Unit	1725
	Examiner Name	Elve, Maria Alexandra
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		
Total Number of Pages In This Submission	11	Attorney Docket Number 22176.25

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement  <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers  <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Remarks _____		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	Houston, Eliseeva LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Maria Eliseeva		
Date	December 3, 2006	Reg. No.	43,328

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:			
Signature			
Typed or printed name	Maria Eliseeva	Date	December 3, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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